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Arab Village Attacked

Jerusalem, Dec. 11.
Sixty alleged members of the Jewish underground have attacked the Arab village of Salame, south of Jaffa.

After cordoning off the village, which has a population of several thousand, the attackers searched the home of the village chief and "arrested" his son and cousin.

The raiders were armed with tommy-guns and automatic pistols and threw several hand grenades and fired guns during the attacks.

One theory was that the attackers were trying to recover arms allegedly stolen by the villagers. They reportedly notified the village chief that his two kinsmen would be held as hostages until the arms were returned.

No casualties were reported in the raid.—United Press.

General On War Danger

Los Angeles, Dec. 11.
Lt-Gen. Ira Eaker, Deputy Chief of Staff of United States Army Air Forces, declared today that "there will be another war" and warned that the United States "never stood in a period of greater danger."

Speaking before the American Institute of Journalists last night, General Eaker denied that he was war-mongering, any more than "a doctor advocates diseases when he talks about it or a preacher advocates sin when he talks about it."

General Eaker urged, that as a preparation for, and a guard against, a new war, the United States should develop professional diplomats; set up a central intelligence agency; establish Arctic bases; and maintain a unified military establishment until the United Nations demonstrated its ability to keep

Washington, Dec. 12.
Robert Nathan, former top-ranking United States Government economist, says the nation will be "flirting with collapse" unless industry promptly raises workers' pay or cuts prices sharply.—Associated Press.

Short-Lived Revolt In Venezuela

Caracas, Dec. 12.
Insurgents yesterday, in a surprise attack, seized the major airport of Maracay, about 150 miles from the capital of Venezuela, and immediately dispatched a captured plane on a bombing mission over Maracay and Caracas.
One bomb, estimated to be a 25-pounder, landed near the Presidential Palace here and another struck within 300 yards of Maracay's Jardin Hotel.

Railways Want Public Enquiry

London, Dec. 11.
Britain's four main line railway companies today fired their first shots in the campaign against the Labour Government's plans for nationalising transport.

They issued a nine-point memorandum demanding a public inquiry before any irrevocable step is taken on so vital a matter, maintaining the bill will provide "no constructive plans for improvement and coordination, and that it proposes unwieldy control with no proper safeguards for transport users."

It is argued that the scheme submitted to the Government had not received the attention it deserved.—Reuter.

H.K. WAR MEMORIAL FUND

Committee's Recommendations Accepted By Government: Bill To Be Drawn Up

Public Funds And Subscription

A Hong Kong War Memorial Fund is to be established—partly by public subscription and partly from public funds—as a result of the findings of the Committee formed to recommend a memorial to the Colony's dead which would be of a nature to benefit the community as a whole.

Among the undertakings of the Fund will be measures for the amelioration of the condition of the poorer classes and for the provision of certain social welfare amenities for the people.

Announcement of the Fund was made at yesterday's Legislative Council meeting by the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Mr. R. R. Todd, who said:

"Among the papers to be laid on the table at this meeting of Council is the report of the Committee appointed in July this year, under the Chairmanship of His Honour Mr. Justice Williams, to advise Government on the form which a War Memorial for this Colony should take and on the manner in which its cost should be defrayed. The report, which was submitted on the 19th November, has now been considered by the Government and the following conclusions have been reached.

"The Committee recommends that a Hong Kong War Memorial Fund should be established to provide for the objects set out in Clause 4 of the Hong Kong War Services Assistance Fund Bill and also for undertakings of a nature to benefit the community as a whole. Such undertakings might include measures for the amelioration of the condition of the poorer classes and for the provision of certain social welfare amenities for the people. The objects set out in the War Services Assistance Fund Bill should take precedence over the undertakings of a more general nature and the cost of the whole scheme should be met both by public subscription and by a contribution from public funds.

"Government has accepted the recommendations of the Committee. The War Services Assistance Fund Bill, which passed its First Reading in this Council on the 31st of October, will be withdrawn and in its place a new Bill designed to give effect to the Committee's recommendations will be introduced.

"It is proposed that the sum to be contributed from public funds shall be proportionate to that contributed by public subscription.

A third hit the airfield of the Military Aviation School near Maracay. No damage or injuries have yet been reported. President Romulo Betancourt said shortly after noon that the Government had the situation under control, but at 1.30 p.m. Valencia radio broadcast insurgent pleas to "all Conservatives to arise" which indicated that the city was in the rebels' hands.

A chambermaid in the Jardin Hotel was struck by a stray bullet as Loyalist soldiers in a leap fired at a plane bombing Maracay.

President Betancourt said that the revolt was led by followers of General Ismael Medina Angarita, who was overthrown in the October 1945 revolt led by leaders of the present Government.

Caracas was quiet yesterday afternoon. The calm was broken only by a single bomb dropped near Miraflores Palace, the Presidential residence.—Associated Press.

STATUE FOR HONG KONG

London, Dec. 12.
The 10-ft. high bronze statue of King George VI, which was ordered for the centenary celebrations of Hong Kong in January, 1941, and on which work had to be stopped because of the war, has now been completed and is awaiting shipment to the Far East.—Reuter.

Sino-British Relations

Hankow, Dec. 12.
A categorical denial that Great Britain, in order to avoid involvement in a possible Russo-American clash, had shifted its trade centre in the Far East to Hong Kong, Kowloon and Canton was made this morning by Sir Ralph Stevenson, British Ambassador to China, at a press conference.

Sir Ralph also disclosed that the British authorities six months ago conveyed to the Chinese Government the draft of a Sino-British treaty and are now awaiting a reply.

On the question of a British Tommy killing a villager at Shumchun, the Envoy said the dispute would be solved according to due process of international law.

Sir Ralph disclosed that in the near future, British banks in Nanking as well as banks in other cities would resume business. On the question that Britain allegedly is shifting her trade centre to the south, the Ambassador said that as there were ample trading opportunities for all nations in China, Britain was not likely to come into conflict with any nation.

He disclosed that the draft treaty, other than the section covering the question of immigration and navigation, is substantially the same as the Sino-American Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation.

Sir Ralph said Sino-British relations had had a long history and that furtherance of cultural relations between the two nations should prove most beneficial to both parties. Regarding the Kowloon incident, Sir Ralph maintained that the shooting was accidental and British authorities in Hong Kong had complied with the Chinese Government's request that measures be taken immediately to be taken against the culprit.—Central News.

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No Port Trust For Hong Kong

Hong Kong is not to have a Port Trust but a Port Committee, which will be an advisory body, it was announced in Legislative Council yesterday by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. R. R. Todd.

Mr. Todd was replying to the Hon. Mr. R. D. Gillespie, who had asked: "Government in its reply to the question asked on the 25th July by the Hon. Mr. D. F. Landale on the subject of the future administration of the Port of Hong Kong, stated, inter alia, that it was considered desirable that the late Sir David Owen's recommendations for the creation of a Port Trust should receive complete reconsideration in the light of present conditions, and that it was proposed that the Port Executive Committee should continue to function until a final decision on policy had been reached. Will Government state how the matter now stands?"

Mr. Todd replied: "In August last a fully representative Committee under the Chairmanship of the Honourable Mr. T. M. Hazlerigg, C.B.E., M.C., was appointed for the purpose of assisting the Government in the reconsideration of its policy in regard to the future administration of the Port of Hong Kong.

"The report of this Committee was submitted on Nov. 13 and it has today been laid on the table of this Council. The Government takes this opportunity of expressing its appreciation of the services which have been rendered by the Chairman and members of the Committee in conducting this investigation and in submitting their comprehensive and very valuable report.

It will be seen that the principal recommendations of the Committee are that a Port Trust should not be established and that the requisite co-ordination and the necessary representation of the interests concerned should be attained by the formation of a Port Committee whose duty it would be to consider and advise Government upon all matters relating to the welfare, control, administration and development of the Port.

The Government after considering these recommendations has decided to accept them and is now taking steps to bring them into effect."

(The Committee's Report will be found in Page 4.)

Signing Of Peace Treaties In Paris

New York, Dec. 11.
The Council of Foreign Ministers today agreed that the peace treaties with Italy, Finland, Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania would be signed in Paris on February 10 by the representatives of the ex-enemy states and Russia, Britain, the United States and France.

The Foreign Ministers will also sign, probably in their respective capitals. The Council agreed that between now and February 10 it would decide whom to appoint as respective representatives on the commission, which is to visit and report on Italian colonies.

The commission would then start work immediately after the treaties had been signed.

The Council agreed to send a commission to Trieste to report on the problems of finance.

Rockefeller Offer Of U.N.O. Home

Lake Success, Dec. 11.
The United States today proposed that the United Nations establish permanent headquarters in a de luxe "city within a city" in mid-town Manhattan. The American delegation for the first time gave support to a specific location after revealing that Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., had offered to give the United Nations US\$18,500,000 to buy the land along the East River between 42nd and 48th Streets.

Russia also hailed the offer as a possible solution to the long wrangle over whether to locate permanent headquarters in San Francisco or in the eastern United States.

The Headquarters Committee promptly appointed a sub-committee to inspect the proposed Manhattan site. Mr. Rockefeller has obtained a 30-day option on the land and the United Nations must accept or reject the offer within that period. The offer also entailed New York City giving small parcels of land and street sections. Mayor William O'Dwyer has promised his cooperation.

The proposed headquarters, which would be much like the famed Rockefeller Centre a short distance away, would be located in the neighbourhood of the now "dead-end" district of warehouses and delicatessens stores in close view of swank apartment houses.

The chief American delegate hailed the Rockefeller offer as "superior to any of them" and envisioned a group of buildings with working space for 50,000 persons, compared to 40,000 in the Rockefeller Centre. He offered to table the resolution to delay choice of a site until next year if the New York selection was made.

Mr. Rockefeller, in a letter to the United Nations Headquarters Committee, said the gift "would be a source of infinite satisfaction to me and to my family."

"In A Skyscraper" While the new plan seemed to have been tailored for Russia, which has been insisting on a site in the New York area, the British delegates—who have been favouring Philadelphia—were not so enthusiastic. They said the news had been cabled to London that the British did not think much of settling in a skyscraper.

Mr. Warren Austin (U.S.) believed the city's land and street contributions would be about \$2,000,000. The location was originally planned for real estate development at a cost of \$150,000,000.

Mr. Austin said that Mr. Rockefeller was in Brazil when he heard of the struggle over the U.N. site. He hurriedly returned to New York and telephoned the offer to the American delegation at 1 a.m. Mr. Austin told him it must be in writing by 8.15 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller delivered the written offer personally.—United Press.

There still was no direct word from the correspondents but the Government communiqué issued last night said they "met the bandits."

The local authorities had been ordered to do their utmost to locate the missing correspondents and two Army detachments were sent into the region to assist in the search but were received by gunfire from the bandits.

The Trifkala police chief said Vermillion and Phillips temporarily abandoned their jeep at Farma in order to proceed along an impassable road toward the bandits' mountain stronghold.

Later, they returned and drove again in the same jeep to Trifkala via the village of Louzati, arriving at Trifkala at 6 p.m. on Wednesday.

The police report said both were "safe and sound" and speeding toward the nearest telegraph station to file an account of their adventure.—United Press.

Oh, To Be In England..!

London, Dec. 12.
Britain's transport facilities were pestered today with unofficial strikes, mechanical difficulties and cold weather.

Thousands of commuters in Essex were delayed by an unofficial strike of 280 bus drivers and conductors in protest against the winter working schedules.

The L.N.E.R. cancelled some suburban trains because of a shortage of locomotives resulting from the strike of 290 mechanics protesting against the refusal to grant them bonus payments.

Cold weather resulted in icy roads around London and traffic crept cautiously in many areas. There were numerous minor accidents.

One subway line was tied up for 20 minutes during the rush hour when a train had to be taken out of service. One report said a passenger pulled the emergency cord.

A bus stalled in Fleet street causing a traffic jam for a mile behind it.—United Press.

Australian Immigrant Needs

Canberra, Dec. 11.
Mr. Arthur Calwell, Australian Minister of Immigration, today strongly denied the suggestion that Britain's target for the first year has been reduced to 10,000.

"The minimum target is 25,000," he said. "Australia actually needs at least 40,000 workers in 1947. I never agreed on any figure as low as 10,000 being sufficient for our needs."

"The suggestion that the British Government has become lukewarm is both mischievous and untrue, and so is the suggestion that Australia's programme runs counter to the British policy."

"British leaders, who have at all times been most cooperative, recognise that British immigration to Australia will contribute substantially to the security of the British Commonwealth. Inquiries by potential immigrants now number 156,000."—Reuter.

Smallpox: 108 Deaths

The Health Authorities reveal that during the week ending Dec. 7, 187 cases of smallpox were notified, with 108 deaths.

Twenty-three concealed cases were discovered. During the week 164,199 vaccinations were carried out. The St. John Ambulance did 52,602 vaccinations and since starting their voluntary vaccination campaign about eight weeks ago have vaccinated 244,418 people.

It is officially stated that all bodies found in the streets which have been abandoned are being cremated.

Soviet Army Pulling Out

Berlin, Dec. 12.
Widespread withdrawal of Soviet Army equipment toward the East in the direction of Russia appeared to be taking place from the Magdeburg area facing the British occupation zone.

Large convoys of Russian Army trucks were seen bypassing Berlin and headed toward eastern Europe by way of Dresden.

The movement appeared to be part of a demobilisation of Soviet occupation forces which has been underway for some time.—Associated Press.

BANK ROBBER SENTENCED

Jerusalem, Dec. 11.
Benjamin Yassef Kimchin, 16-year old Jew, was sentenced by the Jerusalem Military Court today to terms of 16 and 12 years imprisonment, the sentences to run concurrently, with 18 strokes of the birch, on two charges arising from the \$5,000 bank holdup in Jaffa last September.—Reuter.

Newsman Safe And Sound

Athens, Dec. 12.
Robert Vermillion, United Press correspondent, and John Phillips, "Time" and "Life" correspondent, arrived at Trifkala at 6 o'clock last night and left by jeep for Larissa at 7.30 this morning. The Trifkala chief of police informed the Ministry of Public Security today.

Anxiety for the safety of the two correspondents is felt with the discovery of their abandoned jeep in the Louzati region whence they had gone to contact the bandits fighting a guerrilla campaign against Government forces.

There still was no direct word from the correspondents but the Government communiqué issued last night said they "met the bandits."

The local authorities had been ordered to do their utmost to locate the missing correspondents and two Army detachments were sent into the region to assist in the search but were received by gunfire from the bandits.

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The police report said both were "safe and sound" and speeding toward the nearest telegraph station to file an account of their adventure.—United Press.

Independent Republic Of India?

New Delhi, Dec. 12.
A resolution to proclaim India an "independent sovereign republic" was presented today by Pandit Nehru, the Congress leader, to the Constituent Assembly as the only order of business during a brief 14-minute session of the Constitution-making body.

A discussion has been arranged for Friday on the resolution which provides for the Constituent Assembly drawing up a Constitution for Government of territories that now comprise British India, the Indian states and such other parts of India as are outside British India and the states as well as such other territories as are willing to be constituted into an independent sovereign India.

Some circles interpret this last phrase as referring to Portuguese and French possessions in India. Declaring that all power and authority of independent India are derived from the people, the resolution stated that the peoples be guaranteed "justice—social, economic and political equality of status, of opportunity and before the law; freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship and vocation, subject to law and public morality."

The resolution provides that "adequate safeguards" given to minorities in backward and tribal areas and the depressed classes. It stated that under the Constitution, "this ancient land shall retain its rightful and honoured place in the world and make its full and willing contribution to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind."—Associated Press.

AIR CRASH

Jerusalem, Dec. 11.
Two of the Egyptian crew and a passenger were killed when a Misa Airlines (Egyptian) aircraft, flying to Cairo from Baghdad, crashed three miles east of Haifa last night, it was learned here today.—Reuter.

THE WEATHER

Anticyclones cover the East-ern Sea and Western China. A depression NE of Hokkaido has remained nearly stationary. A trough, on which small depressions are forming, extends eastward from the Gulf of Tonkin. Pressure remains low over the equatorial regions. Today's forecast: Light or moderate E winds, freshening later; clouds breaking gradually. Yesterday's weather: Maximum: 64 deg. Fah. Minimum: 67 deg. Fah. Max. Rel. Humidity: 93%. Sunshine: Nil. Rainfall: 0.01 inch.

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No News About The Moratorium

The Government is not yet in a position to make any further statement on the Moratorium and debtor-creditor relationships, stated the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Mr. R. R. Todd, in Legislative Council yesterday.

Mr. Todd was replying to the Hon. Mr. M. K. Lo, who had asked:

"With reference to the motion which I introduced on the 27th August, 1946 on the subject of the Moratorium and Debtor-Creditor Relationship, and to the reply of the Hon. the Attorney-General, can Government make any further statement on the matter and if Government has not reached a decision on any of the points raised in the Debate will Government give an indication as to how long the Colony will have to wait before a decision can be reached?"

Mr. Todd replied:—"It is regretted that this Government is not yet in a position to make any further statement on the subject of the Moratorium and Debtor-Creditor relationships."

"As was pointed out in the course of the debate on the Motion which the Honourable Member introduced on the 27th August, the considerations which affect the problem of Debtor-Creditor relationships are by no means the same in the different British dependencies which were occupied by the Japanese. His Majesty's Government has not yet reached any final decision in the matter, for, as will be readily realised, it is extremely difficult to find a formula which will be entirely satisfactory. In spite of the fact that no decision has yet been reached on the major question of Debtor-Creditor relationships the related but simpler question of clearing balances has been satisfactorily settled."

No Immediate Prospect
Although, as was explained recently by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in reply to a question in the House of Commons concerning Malaya, there is no immediate prospect of lifting the Moratorium, the possibility of exempting dealings in land affected by occupation transactions has been taken up with the Secretary of State subject to the exclusion of cases where the Land Officer has received notice of a claim that any occupation transaction affecting such land is void or voidable.

"The possibility of a partial removal of the ban on the transfer of shares has also been suggested to the Secretary of State with a view to permitting dealings in shares of those companies, who although in default with the strict requirements of Company Law, have furnished certain minimum particulars to the Register of Companies. Any block of shares concerning which a Company had received conflicting claims would naturally be excluded."

"Replies from the Secretary of State on these two points are now awaited."

NOT OFFICIAL

The attention of the public is invited to the fact that the Chinese version of the Hong Kong Government Gazette which is published regularly under the title of "The Hong Kong Government Gazette (Translated)" is not an official publication.

It is, therefore, essential that anyone whose interests appear to be affected by an announcement appearing in this publication should verify the text of such announcement by reference to the Hong Kong Government Gazette itself, which contains the only authoritative text.

FINE INSTEAD OF GAOL

A tallyman, Luk Tai, who was recently sentenced to six months' hard labour by Mr. E. H. Sainsbury for aiding and abetting the larceny of eight rolls of blue serge valued at \$1,034 15s. from the Government Store, North Point, had his sentence reduced to a fine of \$400 after reconsideration.

Mr. Alfred S. K. Lau, pleading leniency for the defendant, said that defendant's father, who was a well-known tailor, would willingly stand surety.

Defendant was also ordered to sign a bond of \$200 to be of good behaviour for 12 months.

A STRONG PLEA FOR CLOSER SINO-BRITISH FRIENDSHIP

A strong plea for closer Sino-British friendship and cooperation was made by Mr. Stanley H. Dodwell, Chairman of the newly inaugurated Anglo-Chinese Economic Association, at a large luncheon party at the Hong Kong Hotel, Roof Garden yesterday.

The function was held to extend a welcome to two distinguished visitors to the Colony—Sir Leslie Boyce, head of the United Kingdom Trade Mission to China, and Sir Angus Gillan, head of the Empire Division of the British Council.

Mr. Dodwell said in part:—"I want to stress that we are an Economic Association, and not a political one. To be successful we shall need the support of many more of Hong Kong's influential citizens. As one of the Colony's oldest inhabitants, and one of China's oldest friends, I feel that I am entitled to ask for that support, and optimistic enough, knowing how many of our citizens have our cause at heart, to believe that we shall get it."

"Please do not infer from this that co-operation has been lacking in the past. On the contrary, it has been much in evidence, particularly during those long years when China was fighting alone against the Japanese. I am sure our Chinese friends will be the first to admit that we then co-operated to the fullest extent that circumstances would permit, and that the assistance rendered by our Merchants and our Ship-Owners was of material help to them during those years of lone resistance."

"Today, when we are both faced with the unprecedented difficulties and problems of post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation, mutual assistance and co-operation are even more essential than they were in time of war—not only between China and Great Britain, but between all Nations, and it is indeed strange and deplorable that, out of the sacrifices made so willingly by the Allies in the war, has not yet sprung that measure of reciprocity, understanding, and good will, necessary to bring about the peace we all so earnestly desire, and for which so many of our sons gave their lives."

Basis Of Prosperity

A reasonable measure of earthly prosperity has been granted us as well as a good many of our British and Chinese friends, to help make up for the disastrous losses of the war, but that but is a very big but—our prosperity today is not based on the sound foundation of a balanced trade. As you all know, only too well, imports into China far exceed her exports and until there is a most substantial increase in the latter we cannot look forward to the future in confidence. The new Import and Export regulations, recently promulgated in Shanghai are a useful step in the right direction. They will, I am afraid, prove irksome and unpalatable to many of us Chinese and Foreigners alike, but, if they are administered fairly and efficiently as the names and reputations of the Chinese gentlemen on the Control Board entitle us to expect they will be, then they deserve and should receive our willing co-operation as a necessary measure for achieving safer and saner conditions of trade.

"In the early post-war days many an industrialist in Great Britain was convinced that the ideal method of Anglo-Chinese co-operation would be found in the formation of Anglo-Chinese Companies with Chinese and British capital. Unhappily the uncertainty in regard to Chinese currency, and the abnormally high cost of labour and factory accommodation have for the time being at any rate, reduced this method of co-operation to a minimum. Nevertheless, it should be the ideal method, and I have no doubt that one day, when conditions in China become more stable and peaceful, it will be put into practice."

Sense Of Humour

"I am pleased to see that the members of the Trade Mission have not lost their sense of humour, and I echo to the rafters the sentiments recently expressed in Shanghai by my young friend John Keswick, the Chairman of the British Chamber of Commerce, when he said to the Trade Mission that the British and the Chinese race have three qualities in common—a keen sense of humour, good temper, and confirmed optimism. With those three qualities, gentlemen, we shall not fail eventually to surmount our post-war difficulties."

After Mr. Lai Yau-suen, Vice-Chairman of the Association had spoken in Chinese, Mr. A. A. Chen, Secretary-General, said that messages of good wishes had been received from all quarters including one from Dr. T. V. Soong, and

they were also most fortunate in having with them Mr. Aw Boon-haw, well-known philanthropist and friend of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. Mr. Aw had been good enough to give the Association his unstinted moral and material support.

Stressing China's grievous losses in heavy industry as a result of the war, Mr. Chen said that while plant and machinery might not be available for some years, he felt sure the resources of England, Canada and Australia could be mustered to meet the total need in a much shorter period than one might imagine.

He was sure the Mission had been astounded at the complicated conditions to be found in China today and he suggested that in the interim there should be a concentration on the promotion and development of Hong Kong's industry, agriculture and transport, preferably with competitive preference to industries using Chinese materials.

Sir Leslie, replying, said he had listened with interest to the remarks made by the Chairman, and also to the various points touched upon by Mr. Chen, and he assured them that they would receive most careful consideration.

Britain had watched with admiration China's heroic and successful fight against Japanese aggression, and the people at home were also proud of the loyalty and fortitude of both British and Chinese here during the difficult days of the occupation.

"The British Government feels a special responsibility towards Hong Kong in the economic sphere, because it is a Crown Colony, and you may be sure that that responsibility will be discharged to the full."

The British people were making supreme effort and great sacrifices in order to increase exports overseas which included Hong Kong, and these should during the next year become increasingly plentiful. If for many years past Britain has played a leading role in the trade of the world, Hong Kong would also be the premier link of British trade in the Far East, and that vital role she would continue to play.

British Policy

"While the world is hungry for goods of British exporters and there is no difficulty in finding buyers abroad, we realise the time will come when selling will not be so easy. It has therefore been the policy of British manufacturers to aim at producing first class goods at fair prices as it is felt that they will always be easier to sell to a prosperous than an impoverished market. Apart from that, it is British policy from an entirely altruistic standpoint, to encourage international trade and to raise the standard of living in all countries. This is the basis of the British export drive."

Further cases of black market racketeering were heard before Mr. E. H. Sainsbury at the Central Magistracy yesterday, when several leading stores, including a wholesale dealer, were heavily fined.

Mr. Sainsbury warned that further deliberate cases of racketeering might lead to closing of the stores.

In the case against Siu Yip of the Sang Cheung Store, Mr. W. H. Nollth of the S.T. & L. Department, said that defendant was a wholesale dealer, and his shop was visited by inspectors due to complaints from residents in Hong Kong and the New Territories.

The margin of profit in the sale of Ovaltine was nearly 50 per cent, and it was a clear case of racketeering.

All cases were prosecuted by Mr. Nollth.

Siu Yip, of the Man Sang Cheung Store, No. 129, Wing Lok Street, was fined \$420 for sale of a case of 48 tins of Ovaltine at \$115.10, while the controlled price was \$100.80.

Lee Fat of the Pook Hing Store, 121, Wing Lok Street East, was fined \$140 for selling a tin of Ovaltine at \$4.05, while the controlled price was \$3.75.

For sale of a tin of Ovaltine at \$4.05, while the controlled price was \$3.75.

BILLS READ

At yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council the motion made by the Chief Justice under section 14 of the Probates Ordinance (No. 2 of 1897) were approved.

A bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to general and school holidays was read for the first time.

An Ordinance to amend the Tramway Ordinance passed its second and third readings.

"Both China and Britain have to export if they are to pay for what they import for rehabilitation and to improve their standard of living. It is in this field that the two countries can help each other, because the things each of us want are complementary."

"In all these matters we look to Hong Kong to make an important contribution to our international trade, apart altogether from the abnormal imports and exports confined to the requirements of this island city."

British Council

Last to speak was Sir Angus Gillan who addressed the gathering on the invitation of the Chairman. He gave a review of the work and achievements of the British Council and said the Anglo-Chinese Economic Association could do much to further the aims of the Council in getting the peoples of the two countries to understand better each other's way of life and culture.

"Though at home we are still faced with many difficulties," continued Sir Angus, "we are doing our best to deliver to you our cultural goods, and I hope that in the very near future we may be able to set up a branch council here. I personally would welcome this, because it would afford me an excuse for coming out here again to renew the many acquaintances I have made on my present tour."

The party, which was attended by well over 300 people, was the first public function held by the Anglo-Chinese Economic Association, and the list of guests included the C-in-C, the GOC, Major General F. W. Festing, the Chief Justice, Sir Henry Black, the official and unofficial members of the Legislative Council, the Chinese Special Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Mr. T. W. Kwok, and leading members of the community.

Air Crews Entertained

Last night, Sir Leslie Boyce and members of the Mission entertained the crew and maintenance personnel of the York and Lancaster planes in which the Mission has made its tour of China.

A private dinner party was held at the Peninsula Hotel.

In the course of the tour the two aircraft have covered 16,000 miles in China and completed 15 landings. Only once has the party been behind schedule when the planes arrived 20 minutes late at Chungking from Kunming. This was because they were held up at Kunming due to a severe storm.

This achievement is all the more noteworthy because often the aircraft have flown outside of the normal air routes over China, and the splendid record of the York and Lancaster is almost wholly due to the quality of aircrews and navigation.

Close and helpful liaison was also maintained throughout the tour with the Chinese Air Force, the U.S. Army Air Force and C.N.A.C., all of whom gave

(Continued at foot of Next Col.)

Readers' Letters

Not Human?

Sir,—In answer to J. A. G. letter re English Residents attitude towards Servicemen. I myself am a member of His Majesty's Forces and going home this month to England and with me I shall take back memories of some of the people (Europeans) who I'm leaving in Hong Kong if they are the people I fought five years for, then I have no wish to rejoin the Forces and fight for England again.

Not only Hong Kong but in many other parts of the Empire have I noticed the change now that the war is finished.

No Sir, I do not ask for garlands and posies to be strewn in my path and every one bowing to earth. For the manner in which some English servicemen act is decidedly not one of a person from a great Country. If you bear in mind just how a serviceman exists whilst in the services perhaps you will understand why so many act as they do.

As a civilian if I wished to make merry I should leave an order at the wine store so that it may be delivered, at home, being in the Banks you may not consume drink in the establishment, ship, or station, there Sir is the main trouble the serviceman has to come out into the open and not hide behind locked doors in the week and go to church on Sunday.

In writing this letter I am not thinking of all the European Colony, I am remembering the few who tried so gallantly for Servicemen to travel with the Chinese coolies, so that only Europeans may travel on the upper deck in seclusion away from the haunted look of the servicemen who saw friends, brothers, relations go down in battle these long weary years of war. All I can say in conclusion Sir is that I think it would perhaps have been better to travel with coolies on the Kowloon Ferry they are at least human.

D. H. W.

A Serviceman's View

Sir,—As a recent arrival in the colony, may I be allowed space in your columns to say a few words.

After serving 6 months in Burma and almost a year in the Netherlands East Indies, it was quite naturally very pleasing to be posted to Hong Kong and as I few over the island on arrival I experienced no mean thrill, because I thought, here at last in a British Colony, I should be amongst my own "civilian" kinsmen and be able to enter into a sphere of friendship and understanding. For the main part I am quite satisfied, but nevertheless I have seen and heard little, almost insignificant, things that cast a cloud over an otherwise rosy existence.

Why, I wonder after 6 years of war, do English ladies and men, still think that soldiers, sailors and airmen are people to be spurned and avoided?

Why do English ladies, literally draw up their skirts and out-

warily show such utter disdain for us, when all we ask is to be spoken to as men and not inhuman monsters?

What is the stigma attached to servicemen and those who make us, instinctively retire behind blank, expressionless masks, whenever they set eyes on one of us?

Is it because they are so busy trying to get back to pre-war days and behaviour, that the appearance of a uniform brings back the thought of war to them, because if so, I can assure them that but for a little scheme, called the Aze and Service release scheme, the majority of us would be back in England trying to pick up strings of broken careers and educations.

Or is it because these people still think that a military life consists, for the main part, of drunkenness and loose living, making out all servicemen to be unclean and immoral. If this is the case, then those people ought to be told a few facts.

A good percentage of us have been away from our families for one year to three years. During these years some of us have experienced war and human suffering and degradation, at its blackest and most horrible peak—namely in the Burma Campaign. We have seen and done things that to the civilian must sound callous and too disgusting to discuss.

The sight of friends dying slowly from ugly festering sores and of British bodies, hacked and mutilated beyond all recognition being dragged from the slime and filth of a river-bed to be given a decent burial, of British and Allied P.O.W. so emaciated and disease ridden as to make them living skeletons being flown out of Siam, Malaya and Sumatra.

These instances, and scores of others, have turned our minds to the glaring fact that at times human beings are little more than sadistic, shameless, demoralised animals! And but for the efforts of our servicemen, this state of affairs might still have been going on, abusing and tormenting human-beings all over the Far East.

I do not care pardon for acts of stupidity and annoyance carried out by servicemen but I do ask you to realize that contrary to common belief we have not been living in a "fools paradise" for the past two or three years, and that to us Hong Kong offers a resting-place from the horrors of war, where we can regain some of our self-respect and propriety before returning to take our place in an English community once more.

We should be much happier if more people realized this.

ONE WHO SURVIVED

St. Vincent De Paul
Sir,—On behalf of this Society I thank you for the kindness and consideration which you have shown us, and which did in no small way contribute in making our last Rose Day a success.

Since the re-occupation we have paid out over \$2000 monthly in relief and have also rehabilitated our two homes for destitute and street sleepers. For the next twelve months we are in a position to step up this relief work to \$5000 monthly and we have also earmarked a sufficient sum to start a lending library of school books for the poor children.

A Committee is at present studying whether it is possible to re-open the Kai Lap Free School for poor children. The different orphanages will also receive as much aid as we can spare.

PRESIDENT,
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Canton Insurance Annual Meeting

A combined surplus of nearly \$8,000,000 on the Company's workings for the years 1940-1944 was announced by Mr. F. A. Pollock, presiding at yesterday's first post-war shareholders annual meeting of the Canton Insurance Office Ltd., held in the Board Room of the General Agents, Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., Ltd.

A final dividend of \$5 a share for 1940, and dividends of \$10 each for the years 1941-1944, a total of \$45 per share in all, was declared.

Supporting Mr. Pollock in the chair were Messrs. F.C. Barry, C. Bernard Brown, F.S. Cassidy, A.H. Compton, W.A. Stewart, and the Hon. Mr. M.K. Lo (members of the Consulting Committee) and Mr. K.A. Mason (Secretary).

Opening the meeting Mr. Pollock said: "The last Ordinary Yearly Meeting of shareholders was held on June 25, 1941. The Articles of Association provide that a General Meeting be held every year and that a Consulting Committee be elected annually. It has been impossible to fulfil these requirements during the last four years and it is necessary that the appointments and acts of the Consulting Committee be regularized.

"Following the outbreak of war in the Pacific the General Agents were able to make arrangements for the Office to carry on its normal business outside the occupied areas under the direction of our London Agents, Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., Ltd. On the surrender of Japan in September, 1945, the General Agents contacted those members who had been on the Consulting Committee in 1941 and who were then available and steps were taken to resume control of the Office's business from Hong Kong.

"The Consulting Committee, with some changes, has continued to act in the best interests of the Office as if it had been regularly constituted in the ordinary way and the acts of the Consulting Committee have been confirmed and approved. I therefore propose the following Resolution, namely:—That the appointments and acts of all members of the Consulting Committee subsequent to the last Annual General Meeting and up to the date of this Meeting be hereby approved and ratified."

"The motion was seconded by Mr. John Fleming and carried unanimously. "Following Mr. Pollock's address, I wish to refer with much regret to the death of Mr. T.E. Pearce, a member of the Consulting Committee since 1919, who was killed in action in Hong Kong on June 10, 1941. I also have to report to you that the Office has suffered by the death in action in Hong Kong of three members of the Staff, namely: Messrs. H.W. Mulvey, J.C. Kager and G.P. Stone. I should like to take this opportunity of extending to their relatives and friends our deepest sympathy in their loss.

"Mr. F.C. Barry, who is our Secretary for the past 25 years, has retired and I desire to place on record the General Agents' and Consulting Committee's appreciation of the distinguished services rendered by Mr. Barry during his 42 years service with the Office, the retiring position of the Office today is due in no small measure to his efforts. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Barry many happy years of well-earned retirement."

"The Accounts have been divided into two parts—those for 1941, 1942, 1943, and those for the period from Jan. 1, 1942 to Dec. 31, 1945. The new method adopted in rendering our Accounts is based on modern practice. We have dispensed with showing cents, shillings and pence and have drawn up our Balance Sheet in a different manner. For example, current assets are grouped together, as are current liabilities, thus facilitating comparisons. In addition, we have introduced an Appropriation Account to which the balances of closed Working Accounts are transferred. The appropriations recommended are incorporated in the Balance Sheet thereby revealing the position of the Office at the date of the Balance Sheet.

"With the exception of the year 1945, the outcome for all the years under review exceeded any previous balance and the results for 1944, which reveal a surplus of \$2,625,774, are a record in the history of the Office. This excellent showing is most gratifying and I think shareholders will agree that we owe a great deal to Messrs. Matheson & Co., Ltd., London, for the work they did in looking after our interests.

"I wish to express our appreciation for the whole-hearted co-operation and assistance rendered by our various Agents outside the occupied Areas; their staunch support following the fall of Hong Kong is much appreciated.

"The balance at credit of Working Account 1945 as at Dec. 31, 1945 stood at \$2,625,774. This is much below the figures for the years 1941 to 1944 at the same stage, but compares favourably with the pre-war figures. It is not possible to make any forecast as to the final outcome of the 1945 Accounts as much has yet to be paid in respect of second year losses and U.K. taxation.

Emergency Operation On A Wooden Table

War Damage Claims Commission

No decision in regard to requisitioning can be made until war damage claims have been examined in detail.

This was announced by the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Mr. R. R. Todd, at yesterday's Legislative Council meeting in reply to the Hon. Mr. M. K. Lo, who had asked:—

"With reference to the first question which I put to Government on the 25th July, 1946 on the subject of the responsibility for the requisitioning of:—

(1) Leasehold property; (2) Steamer and other craft; (3) Personal property; and the answer of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary of the same day, can Government make a further statement on the matter, and if Government has not reached a decision, will Government state when a decision is likely to be reached?"

Mr. Todd replied:— "Government regrets that no decision will be possible in these matters until War Damage claims have been examined in detail. With this object in view a War Damage Claims Commission will shortly be appointed and it is anticipated that they will visit Hong Kong about March next year. The question of the extent to which responsibility can be assumed for claims for which there is no legal liability under Regulations 4 and 6 of the Compensation (Defence) Regulations, 1940, will have to be considered in the light of such contribution as may be forthcoming from Imperial funds and on account of reparations from the enemy. As the Honourable Member will realise it will not be possible for this Colony to provide full compensation from its own resources."

At 8 o'clock tonight the Kowloon Swing Club meets at the NAAP Club Kowloon to listen to records of British and American Swing bands and orchestras. The second half of the programme will be devoted to the American trombonist orchestra leader, Tommy Dorsey, and to discs requested at last Friday's Swing Club. All swing enthusiasts are cordially invited.

who said the results revealed exceeded the most sanguine expectation of shareholders and it was a brilliant achievement on the part of the London Agents of the Company and its various agents abroad, to whom shareholders would like to convey their thanks.

Members of the Consulting Committee (Hon. Mr. M.K. Lo and Messrs. F.C. Barry, C. Bernard Brown, F.S. Cassidy, D.E. Clark, A.H. Compton, W.A. Stewart and S.T. Williamson) were re-elected on the basis of the proposition of Mr. N.V.A. Croucher, seconded by Mr. S. Hampden Ross.

Messrs. Lowe Bingham & Matthews and Messrs. Percy Smith & Co. were re-appointed auditors of the Company on the motion of Mr. M.K. Lo, seconded by Mr. H. Sidbury.

Shareholders present were Messrs. M.A. Croucher, M.W. Lo, H. Sidbury, M.E. Lo, S. Hampden Ross, J. Fleming, Horace Lo, Ho Kom-long, R.A. Dastur, D. Huns, J.T. Bagran and Ho Shai-chung.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Chairman announced that dividend warrants were ready.

Evidence that an emergency operation had to be carried out on a Royal Scots officer at Argyle Street camp on a wooden table without adequate surgical instruments, was given at yesterday's session of the war crimes trial of Colonel Tokunaga and other P.O.W. Camp officials.

William Fogwill, Health Inspector, said that he was a member of the H.K.R.N.V.R. and was taken POW in Dec. 1941. During the period of his internment, witness was at Shamshulpo, North Point and Argyle Street Camps.

At the Argyle Street Camp, witness worked in the bakery and assisted in surgical operations. He had joined the Royal Navy in 1916 and served 12 years with the sick berth staff.

There were several cases of cholera in Camp in 1943 and they were transferred to the hospital outside the Camp. This hospital was just an ordinary hut similar in kind to the huts occupied by POWs. There were other hospitals in Hong Kong at the time.

Lieut. Col. Armstrong, who was suffering from cancer and had been in the camp hospital originally, was only transferred to Bowen Road Hospital after some considerable time.

When Major Hook of the Winnipeg Grenadiers became seriously ill, repeated requests were made to Saito to have him sent to hospital. Nothing was done for over a month. Saito was in the ward with the patient when the request was made. He had many opportunities of seeing Hook but did not take advantage of them. He simply came in, looked at the patient and then went away.

Operation In Camp

A request was also made that Captain Miller of the Royal Scots be sent to Bowen Road. The reply came back that Capt. Miller could not be sent on the day the request was made but would have to wait till the following day. Owing to the serious nature of Capt. Miller's illness, an operation was carried out in camp that evening. He was never removed to hospital.

A wooden table served as the operating table and there were few surgical instruments. Sterilizing had to be done over a fire of wood.

Sub-Lieut. Eardley of the H.K.R.N.V.R. was struck in the legs by shrapnel during a raid by American bombers. He was admitted to the camp hospital, operated on and then put to bed. Saito came in and promised to send Eardley to hospital, but his promise was never carried out. Several minor operations had to be performed to heal the wound. Patients usually went to hospital in agony. Lieut. Bowker was taken away from Camp in a lorry. He was in a very serious condition.

Chemist's Evidence

Arthur Rowan, M.A. of Cambridge University and a member of the Pharmaceutical Association of Great Britain said that at the time of the Japanese occupation he was operating the Kwong Wah Drug Company.

During the occupation, he was asked by Dr. Selwyn Clarke in May or June 1942 to obtain very urgently some anti-diphtheria vaccine. Witness obtained about two dozen vials of 20,000 units each.

A few days later he was told to get the same quantity because the first lot had been stolen by the Japanese. Witness spent the whole day in getting the second lot and after 5 p.m. in the evening, handed Dr. Selwyn Clarke a

fourth quantity. In all, witness supplied 48 vials of 20,000 units each.

Swabs From Stanley

The last witness yesterday was Leung Kwok Tai, Senior Laboratory Assistant, Government Bacteriological Institute, who declared that he was appointed technical expert by the Japanese in February 1942.

During the Japanese occupation, ample laboratory facilities were available for the examination of diphtheria swabs.

In 1942 throat swabs were received from Stanley Internment Camp. There was always a large supply of swabs on hand. Most of the throat swabs handled were in respect of diphtheria. Occasionally, cholera swabs were sent in. These were received from Hospitals and the Japanese anti-epidemic bureaux. No swabs were ever received from any of the Military POW Camps.

After Major Puddicombe had read affidavits by Capt. E. J. Green, Capt. J. J. Hurley, Rfm. A. Pifer and Lieut. Col. W. J. Holmes, hearing of the case was adjourned till 10 a.m. today.

LOCAL ESTATES

Lo Tung-fan, Barrister-at-Law, formerly of No. 1, Wang Tak Street, left local estate sworn under \$50,000. The late Mr. Lo was arrested by the Japanese Gendarmes and imprisoned at Stanley, where he died on April 12, 1943, at the age of 39.

Letters of administration of the estate have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Lo Liang Pei-yao, of No. 7, Lower Castle Road.

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Owing to the present high level of working costs a scale of charges for the work entailed in the handling of securities, etc. deposited in Safe Custody will be introduced by members of the Association as from 1st January, 1947.

Particulars may be ascertained on application to member banks.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

"GLENFINLAS"

Damaged cargo ex the above vessel will be surveyed at Holt's Wharf between the hours 10.00 a.m. and 12 noon on 14th, 16th and 17th December 1946 and consignees representatives are requested to be present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hong Kong, 12th Dec., 1946.

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Public Auction

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on Friday, the 13th. Dec. 1946, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

at Their Sales Rooms, No. 35 Hankow Road, Kowloon.

A Nice Selection of Valuable Household Furniture comprising:—

Teak wood extension dining tables, glass cabinets, sideboards, dining chairs, chesterfield couch, easy armchair, writing table, steel filing cabinet, wardrobes, dressing tables, double beds, single iron beds, perambulator, cloth wringer, tennis rackets, golf clubs, hall stands, English coffee sets, table clock, wine glasses, glass ware, E. P. ware, cutlery, curios, vases, double bed mattress, and blackwood furniture etc., etc., etc.

Also 1 Philips radio—All wave 1 Philco radio 1 Philco refrigerator 1 Cheque writer 1 Teak dining room suite 4 Tientsin Carpets & Rugs

On View from Thursday, the 12th: December 1946.

Term: As Customary.

LAMMERT BROS., Auctioneers.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG

PROBATE JURISDICTION

In the GOODS of Hormusjee Ruttonjee late of No. 11 Duddell Street, fourth floor, Victoria, Hong Kong, Retired Merchant, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Court has by virtue of Section 58 of the Probate Ordinance, 1897, made an Order limiting the time for creditors and others to send in their claims against the above estate to the 25th day of December 1946.

All creditors and others are accordingly hereby required to send their claims to the undersigned on or before that date.

Dated the 2nd day of December 1946.

LO AND LO, Solicitors for the Executrices of the Will of the above-named deceased, Alexandra Building, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hong Kong.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB

Former Members returning to the Colony are requested to register their names with the Treasurer, Messrs. Percy Smith & Co., on arrival if they wish to continue membership.

By Order of the Committee: CYRIL BELL, Hon. Secretary, Hongkong Cricket Club.

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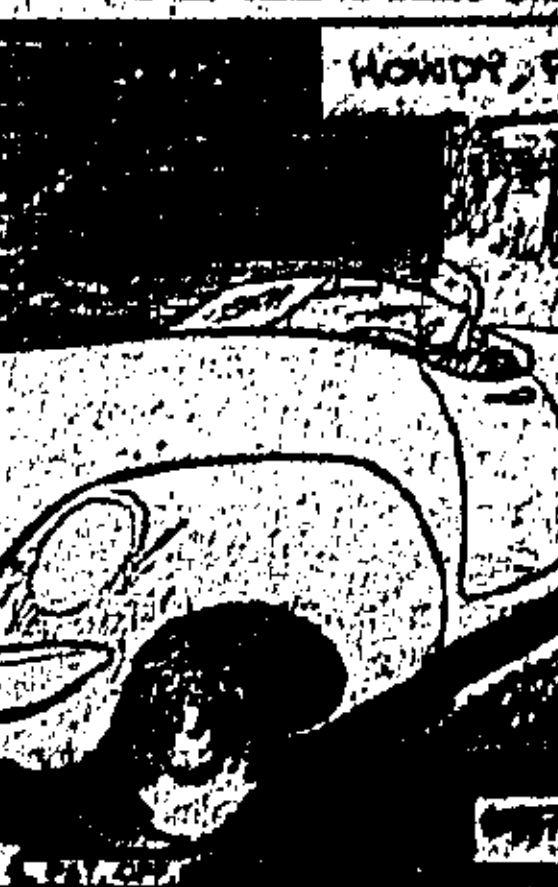
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WAR MEMORIAL

The report of the committee appointed to recommend the form that Hong Kong's war memorial might take is sketchy in composition and lacking in imagination. The influence on the minds of members of the Hong Kong War Services Assistance Fund Bill was obviously very powerful, and while at the first of their three meetings, the Committee was disposed to contribute to that Fund and search for some concrete form of memorial for the benefit of those outside the scope of the War Services Assistance Fund, the quest does not appear to have been very vigorously pursued. Reduced to its elements, the final recommendation is that a War Memorial Fund be established to take the objects of Clause 4 of the Assistance Fund Bill under its wing, with the provision of social welfare amenities as a second string, to be considered when calls on the Fund under Clause 4 have sufficiently diminished. Without desire to carp, there seems to be little here to inspire any marked enthusiasm. With the projects for assistance to the victims of the war there must be strong public sympathy. The community has a debt to pay, a moral obligation that must be met along the lines suggested in the Government Bill. In this connection, it is highly gratifying to note that the Administration, on re-considering the financing of the Fund in the light of the new proposals, has accepted fuller liability to the extent that it will contribute in amounts equal to all public subscriptions. Even so, the idea of Hong Kong basing its War Memorial on its obligations to those distressed in consequence of hostilities—that and nothing more—is one which we receive with some degree of diffidence. The Committee's right in supposing that a concrete war memorial, if by that is meant a monument, would lack support. It is probably equally right in deprecating expenditure, at this period of exceptionally high costs, on building construction. It is more than likely that sharp criticism would arise from any scheme for a hospital such as was built after the 1914-18 war, merely to develop into a private nursing home for the well-to-do. Nevertheless, those who take personal interest in a memorial to the dead of this Hong Kong community will almost certainly feel the need for a more tangible form of Remembrance than the establishment of a semi-charitable organisation. The most tempting idea of all would be the building of a Municipal Centre, but undoubtedly that would be too big an undertaking, too big to be financed by public subscription. The most appealing alternative, a Social Welfare Centre, would not suffer under that handicap. It would simply be a matter of cutting the coat according to the cloth. All in all, it is to be regretted that the Committee rejected its first inclination to do no more than make a substantial contribution to the War Services Assistance Fund, and persist in its search for a further more visible symbol of homage to the dead.

The trade of the Port reached its peak in 1924 and the subsequent decline no doubt provided the reason for not proceeding with schemes which had envisaged a progressive increase in trade. It has been argued before us however, that as some of the schemes provided for reclamations and the consequent redevelopment of certain areas, an atmosphere of doubt was created in the minds of lessees of land on the water front, which was responsible for the failure of these lessees to develop their properties or even to maintain such facilities as formerly existed.

Land Hunger
We do not unanimously accept this as the sole or even principal cause of past failures to develop or to maintain the facilities of the Port, but we recognize that in some cases it may have been a contributory factor. We are, however, strongly of the opinion that, irrespective of any decisions which may be taken about the future form of port administration, in view of the stage which the rehabilitation of the Colony has reached, it is a matter of great urgency that the possibility of delays through apprehension as to or ignorance of the Government's plans for development should be removed.

In a Colony where a chronic land hunger gives rise to con-

Boy Musical Genius

Jersey City, Dec. 12. The unusual musical talent of a six-year-old boy who suffers a body-distorting shortening of the bones is astounding observers. He can play piano selections and compose without previous instruction.

He is William Hoffman. William is unable to read musical notes and does not play by ear alone, but he is able to repeat accurately a selection he sees played by another musician.

The child first began to play the piano at the age of three. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Hoffman, were astonished one day when Billy accurately reproduced one of the tunes his father played.

His father, an engineer who plays the piano by ear and only recently began to take lessons, says his son, listening from another room, is able to tell how many notes his father struck in a chord and what the notes were.—Associated Press.

Committee Opposes Port Trust For Hong Kong

The Committee was constituted with the following members: The Hon. Mr. T. M. Hazlerig, (Chairman), Commodore D. H. Everett, The Hon. Mr. V. Kenniff, Mr. W. M. Thomson, Mr. J. B. Trevor, The Hon. Mr. D. F. Lardale, The Hon. Mr. T. N. Chau, The Hon. Mr. C. C. Roberts, Mr. R. Y. Frost, Mr. Lawrence Kadoorie, Mr. R. A. Wickerson, Mr. Li Koon-chun, Mr. C. G. F. F. Melmoth (Secretary).

In 1941, the late Sir David Owen, formerly General Manager of the Port of London Authority, visited the Colony and submitted a report in which the main proposal was that a Port Trust to control, but not to operate, the port facilities be set up in Hong Kong. His proposals were accepted in principle by the Governor in Council at that time.

Before hostilities ceased and prior to the re-establishment of Civil Government in Hong Kong, arrangements were made in London on the assumption that the creation of a Port Trust as outlined by the late Sir David Owen, would form part of the programme of work to be carried out in the course of rehabilitating the Colony. Mr. C. J. Colman, then Director General of Ports and Navigation, Iraq, and previously for many years a principal officer of the Calcutta Port Trust, was engaged for a short time to set up the proposed Port Trust, and a Hong Kong Port Consultative Committee was convened in London to advise the Secretary of State on matters concerning the carrying out of effect of the late Sir David Owen's proposals. The London Committee concluded its work on the 17th April, 1946, by considering and commenting on a draft Port Trust Ordinance which Mr. Colman had prepared, as by that time the Civil Government was about to be restored in Hong Kong.

Intervention

In June of this year the Secretary of State for the Colonies intimated that in view of the changes which had occurred in the lapse of time since the Owen Report had been considered by the Executive Council, reconsideration of the main proposal for the creation of a Port Trust appeared to be necessary. The Secretary of State pointed out that the importance of the Port in the Colony's economy, the social and political adjustments necessitated by the war and constitutional changes which are now under consideration, clearly made it desirable that all practicable methods of control and operation of the Port should be thoroughly investigated before any decisive step is taken. It was these circumstances which led to our appointment and our terms of reference called for an investigation on the lines suggested by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

It was brought to the notice of the Committee that several plans in the past for the development of the Port had been prepared, notably by the late Sir Maurice Fitzmaurice, in 1921, and by Mr. John Duncan, then Port Engineer, in 1924, but none of these plans had been formally adopted by the Government and the works actually carried out touched only the fringe of the programme envisaged in these reports.

The trade of the Port reached its peak in 1924 and the subsequent decline no doubt provided the reason for not proceeding with schemes which had envisaged a progressive increase in trade.

It has been argued before us however, that as some of the schemes provided for reclamations and the consequent redevelopment of certain areas, an atmosphere of doubt was created in the minds of lessees of land on the water front, which was responsible for the failure of these lessees to develop their properties or even to maintain such facilities as formerly existed.

Land Hunger

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In a Colony where a chronic land hunger gives rise to con-

lict between the need of land for housing purposes and a need for areas close to the water front for storage and other port requirements, it is obvious that port development cannot be planned either by Government or by private enterprise except as an integral part of a comprehensive plan for the development of the Colony as a whole.

Accordingly we decided to submit interim representations to Your Excellency that it was our considered opinion that the lack of an agreed and comprehensive plan was now retarding further rehabilitation and that we felt that it was a matter of great urgency that such a plan should be prepared and agreed as speedily as possible, so that any plans for the improvement of port facilities could be co-ordinated therewith.

The Owen Report

Sir David Owen devoted considerable space in his report to a review of the then existing facilities of the Port and the Committee gave most careful consideration to this review, as it might be expected that there would be found therein the reasons leading to the author's conclusion that the then form of control of the Harbour was unsatisfactory and that the establishment of a Port Trust was desirable.

Sir David did not criticize the system of the grant of pier leases or the provision of piers thereunder by private enterprise, though he pointed out that the piers for the coasting and river services were not in a satisfactory state as to their accommodation and that many of them had been allowed to get into bad condition.

No criticism was levelled at the provision of warehousing godown accommodation by private enterprise and that provided by the major concerns was referred to as up-to-date and excellent, and Sir David remarked that he was struck by the lowness of the charges the principal Godown Companies were able to make.

The report sets out in detail the mooring buoys and the navigational lights and buoys and gives no hint of any inadequacy in provision, mismanagement or excessive charges.

This portion of Sir David's report appears to demonstrate that private enterprise and Government, between them had provided all that was necessary and that there was little, if any, need for development, and in a later paragraph Sir David endorses this view when, after commenting on the little control or administration on the part of Government he says, "it must be admitted that private enterprise has succeeded to a remarkable degree in meeting the needs of the situation."

The Committee does not find in this review any substantial reason in support of the proposition that a change in the form of administration of the Port is necessary or desirable.

Divided Control

Sir David's criticism is that the Harbour was not treated by Government as a single entity but came within the purview of various officials in so far as their general duties impinged on it, the engineering side being controlled by the Director of Public Works, the Land Officer dealing with the issue of pier leases and even the Harbour Master having duties other than those usually associated with that office.

Sir David proceeds to comment on the fact that the accounts of the Harbour are not kept separately so that it is impossible to compare the revenue derived from it with the expenditure on it. He expresses the view that there does not seem to have been much in the nature of planning for the future development of the Port, though he pays a tribute to the foresight displayed by Mr. A. Nicol in the many plans submitted by him. He comments on the fact that there had been no officially adopted plan of development.

Sir David sums up the situation by expressing the view that the doctrine of "laissez faire" well described the attitude of Government to the Harbour. He was of the opinion that taking everything into consideration it was not desirable to allow matters to remain as they were.

He proceeds to consider whether it might be desirable to adopt some improved form of Government control and in particular the formation of a special department for the purpose of controlling the Harbour, with possibly an outside body to advise on Port matters.

Harbour Advisory Boards, he regards as unsatisfactory as they can only express opinions and make recommendations without any guarantee that they will be carried out. He points to the inactivity of the Harbour Advisory

Board which was established in 1929 and the Harbour Advisory Committee which succeeded it in 1931.

For the foregoing reasons Sir David rules out direct Government control, and falls back on his third possible course—the establishment of control by some form of Port Authority or Trust.

Not Warranted

With the utmost deference the Committee expresses the opinion that the facts stated in Sir David Owen's report do not warrant the conclusion that the existing form of control of the Port has resulted in any such failure in administration or inadequacy of facilities as would justify the establishment of control by some form of Port Authority or Trust.

In paragraph 102 of his report Sir David Owen specified that the policy of the Trust should be that of securing that adequate and proper facilities are available in the Harbour for ships and their cargoes, but to allow approved private enterprise to provide these facilities as far as possible and also to let private enterprise do its own operating.

This has been the general policy in the past and the Committee feels that this policy could be nursed with the aid of a strong and representative Advisory Board as effectively as it could be nursed by a Trust, particularly if such Advisory Board were given the necessary powers to see that any of their recommendations which may be approved by Government are carried out.

Harbour The Colony

In Sir David Owen's words, "the Harbour is the Colony and the Colony is the Harbour." If a Trust were to acquire and operate all the facilities of the Port, including piers, wharves and godowns, shipyards, and the Railway, also the control of foreshore rights and reclamations, it would undoubtedly become the master planning unit of the Colony. It is conceivable that a Port Trust of such importance might, by unifying control, effect certain economies, but before it could come into being immense capital expenditure would be involved, and there is no evidence before the Committee that this proposition is practicable or desirable. It is completely against Sir David Owen's recommendations, which do not advocate the creation of an operating Trust.

On the 16th September Mr. Colman addressed the Committee on the characteristics and merits of the Port Trust form of administration.

After outlining the history of Port Trusts and stating his views as to their duties and responsibilities, Mr. Colman expressed the opinion that they had the following advantages:

(1) Being a corporate body the Trust could not be influenced in any way by anyone.
(2) The Trust would be composed of men of mature experience and, in some cases, expert knowledge, wherefore its resolutions or representations called for the closest consideration.

(3) The possibility of the constitution of a Municipal Council might give rise to a conflict between Municipal and Port interests in matters such as road access and maintenance, drainage and sewerage, port health arrangements and the control of ferries, wherein Government might find it difficult to resist Municipal claims without the support of a strong case put up by an authoritative body representing the shipping community.

Continuity

(4) The Trust might be of powerful assistance to Government in connection with such representations as might be made concerning the resumption of Naval and Military lands.

(5) Continuity of responsibility would be assured, the same people keeping a continuous watch over the interests of the Port and seeing that their resolutions were put into effect without undue delay, thus ensuring that the efficiency of the executive staff was maintained.

(6) The closest watch would be exercised over the financial position.

(7) The Trust would be able to formulate a long-term policy for achieving progressive improvements, particularly where there had not been the necessary capital for financing private enterprise.

Mr. Colman considered that two points alone were sufficient to justify Sir David Owen's conclusions, namely:

(i) that the Port Authority should keep separate accounts, and

(ii) that there should be a separate Port Engineering Department with its own budget and financial committee, with specific terms of reference to keep Harbour matters, including the views of private interests, before the Government, and that such arrangements should be made as

soon as possible to put these arrangements into effect.

In a preliminary discussion on Mr. Colman's remarks the opinion was expressed, inter alia, that any necessary improvements in administration might more simply be achieved by improving co-ordination of the work of the Government departments concerned, and the setting up of an influential committee, with specific terms of reference to keep Harbour matters, including the views of private interests, before the Government, and that such arrangements should be made as

(Continued on Page 5)

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"I think people LIKE a little exaggeration when you tell a story! Don't you just eat it up when I call you 'Darling' and 'Precious' and stuff?"

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

REPAIRING THE DAMAGE

Just as a good soldier must know how to fix up his rifle if something on it gets out of kilter, so a defender at bridge must consider that repairing damage done by his partner is one of his properly assigned tasks. If that chap over there on the other side of the table makes a lead out of turn, the declarer naturally has the right to tell you what suit he wishes you to lead. But you are allowed to select the card you prefer. And, if you use your head, you may manage to pick a card which will cancel any advantage he otherwise might have gained from your partner's faux pas.

SA 10 9 8
H 8 6
D A K Q 8
C 5 2
S 6 5 4
H J 5 3 2
D 10 9 7 2
C 8
S K 7 3
H A 9 7
D J 5 3
C K 10 7 4

(Dealer: North. Neither side vulnerable.)
North East South West
1D Pass 2C Pass
2S Pass 3NT
West opened his heart 2, the Q winning when South held up the A, and the 10 took the second trick. Then, just as

East was getting ready to lead the 4, West led the 5. "Lead out of turn!" exclaimed South. Among several options, he then selected that of calling a lead from East, asking for a spade.

Promptly—apparently without thinking about it, but actually with very keen quick thinking—East led the spade J.

It was clear as a bell to South, from that lead, that West had the spade Q. So he won, the trick in his own hand with the K, then finessed the dummy's 10 against the Q, which was clearly marked with West. So East won, and then immediately knocked out the heart A. South now was able to take a couple of other spades and four diamonds, but then, when he had to lose a trick to the club A, East set him with the heart K. If East had returned the spade Q on that called lead, South would have won in dummy, and then finessed against his J, and if East had selected the 2, he would have given South a very cheap trick in the dummy. But East picked the one card which was the most bothersome, so kept his side from losing through West's miscue.

Tomorrow's Question

What is the principal reason why a declarer with the A-Q-10 of a suit in one hand, usually finesses the 10 first instead of the queen?

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NOTICE TO MEMBERS

ANNUAL RACE MEETING, 1947

13th, 14th and 18th January.

On each day the first bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m.

Through numbers for the three days (24 Races—\$48) may be obtained at the Office of the Treasurers, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, also tickets (\$2.00 each) in the Special Cash Sweep on the Hong Kong Derby to be run on the second day, Tuesday, 14th January.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10.00 per day including tax are obtainable through the Secretary upon the written or personal introduction of a member, such members to be responsible for all exits, etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the Race Course.

The Secretary's Office, 1st floor, EXCHANGE BUILDING (Tel. 27794) WILL CLOSE AT 12 NOON EACH DAY.

A limited number of tiffins will be obtainable each day at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 28211).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$2 per day including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tie Men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

By Order,

C. B. BROWN,

Secretary.



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IRAN CIVIL WAR ENDS

Azerbaijan Gives In To Government Army Continues To Advance

Teheran, Dec. 11.

The Iranian War Ministry today announced that the two-day "civil war" ended when leaders of Azerbaijan notified the Central Government that they had decided to bow to its decision to send troops to supervise elections in the province.

General Ahmad Ahmadi, Iranian War Minister, said he received a message from Jaafar Pishvari, leader of the semi-autonomous Azerbaijani regime, announcing the Azerbaijani decision to capitulate.

Premier Ahmed Ghavam's troops had pushed deep into Azerbaijan since they invaded the province, which was occupied by the Russians during the war and which had been subjected more or less to Soviet influence.

Official reports indicated that civil war over the sovereignty of Azerbaijan had been averted after only comparatively minor skirmishes.

Some caution was evident in the Government's reaction to the Tabriz message. Officials said the Army was continuing to advance as planned, since all Azerbaijani might not have heard of the decision.

The Chief of Staff said a considerable quantity of arms and ammunition was taken and a number of prisoners captured.

Nearing Tabriz

Latest reports said Ghavam's troops had passed beyond the Haftankuh range of hills along the provincial border and were headed for Tabriz, capital of Azerbaijan.

Ali Ramazani, Chief of Staff, said troops operating from Zenzajian had reached beyond the provincial border on the road to Tabriz. Small units will be detached along the way and dispatched to various localities where the task of disarming the civilian population will begin as a prelude to the elections.

Officials said the Soviet Ambassador, M. Ivan Sadchikov, submitted a mild protest yesterday against the dispatch of Central Government troops to Azerbaijan, saying that the move was incompatible with Iran's agreement with Russia which stipulated that disturbances and bloodshed along the Soviet border would be avoided.—United Press.

Wrecked Bridges

Teheran, Dec. 11. The "surrender" came less than 48 hours after Government forces crossed the Azerbaijani border on Monday night. The troops met little resistance as they advanced with practically no losses on either side.

Wrecked bridges were their greatest obstacles as they moved forward through the town of Mianeh, midway between the eastern border and the capital. The Iranian Hqs. said that all bridges on the road to Mianeh had been blown up by Azerbaijani democrats and, according to the Teheran Radio, when Government troops reached the town they found the railway station on fire.

Besides the advance on Tabriz by way of Mianeh, another column pressed forward from Tekab. Describing the advance, General Headquarters announced: "All points of the Chahkhan heights have been captured by the Iranian Army."

Neutral observers who returned from the battlefield today said: "The rebels' fire is poorly aimed."

Meanwhile, great popular rejoicings in Teheran followed the announcement of official confirmation of the "surrender" of Tebriz.—Reuter.

asked to be relieved from office when the present BBC charter expired on December 31.

Mr. Attlee added that Lord Luman—a Labour peer who was once a newspaper seller—has been appointed Chairman for five years and Lady Reading Vice-Chairman.—Reuter.

Heil Hitler Group In Toulouse

Toulouse, Dec. 11.

Security police, working in this region for the last three months, have arrested a group, including five women, charged with aiding German prisoners of war to escape from Alsace into Germany.

Further arrests are expected following the discovery of a list of persons who served with the group in France and Germany. One of the arrested men is accused of housing an underground organization where former Nazi Party members and German war prisoners greeted each other with "Heil Hitler" and where plots to assassinate Alsation patriots were hatched.

The group broken up is similar to those which operated last summer near Nancy and near Lille, obtaining food and civilian clothes for German war prisoners.

Police at Chaumont, meanwhile, are seeking some trace of a small training plane stolen from Langres airport with enough petrol to carry it 600 miles.

The airport was along a road frequently used by war prisoners and the police theory is that the plane was stolen by a former German flier.—Associated Press.

Anglo-U.S. Pact?

London, Dec. 11.

Mr. Attlee was asked in the Commons whether he would give his assurance that the Government would not enter into any military pact with the United States Government, or any other Government, without the prior approval of Parliament.

When the Prime Minister replied that it would be contrary to constitutional practice to require the Government to obtain approval of Parliament before taking any detailed step, he was asked if he would make it clear that Britain welcomed an Anglo-American alliance in peace as much as she did in war.

This question was asked by a Conservative Member, to whom Mr. Attlee replied that he had already made it clear that the Government welcomed an alliance for the preservation of peace with all countries.

BBC OFFICIALS RESIGN

London, Dec. 11.

The resignations of the Chairman of the BBC, Sir Allan Powell, and Mr. C. H. Millis, Vice-Chairman, were announced by the Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, in the House of Commons today.

Mr. Attlee said that they had

TEN THOUSAND ATOM BOMBS

Belfast, Dec. 11.

The United States could make 10,000 atomic bombs at \$2,000,000 each, Professor C. H. Urey of Chicago University, a scientist who worked in the development of the bomb, said here today.

"The number would be so great that they could easily destroy all the important cities of the world," he added. Professor Urey contended that there was no real defence against the atomic bomb.—Reuter.

MIRROR TELLS THE TIME

Ventura, Cal., Dec. 12.

Customers who drop into John Morrissey's barber shop find it easy to tell the time from a clock which runs backwards.

When Morrissey had his electric clock changed from 50 to 60 cycles, it ran backwards. So he changed the numerals to counter-clockwise order, and now customers tell the time by looking in the mirror.—Associated Press.

Furtwangler Up Before De-Nazification Court

Berlin, Dec. 11.

The declaration that he was a "real anti-Nazi" was made by the world-famous conductor, Wilhelm Furtwangler, for 20 years conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, before the Berlin Musicians and Actors De-Nazification Court, which adjourned this afternoon for the conductor to obtain further evidence on certain points under dispute. The 60-year-old conductor was under interrogation for four hours.

"I was astonished after the war was over that I was blacklisted, for I always considered myself as one of the few real anti-Nazis in the world of music," said Furtwangler, who is accused of accepting favours from the Nazi Government, including the title of State Councillor, of only halfheartedly protesting at the expulsion of Jews and bowing to the Nazi prohibition of the music of Mendelssohn and other Jewish composers.

Five of the eight assessors hearing the case were once in Nazi concentration camps. "There have been too many lies about me in the world press. It is time the world press knows about me," Furtwangler told the audience, which included newspapermen of seven nations.

A tall figure in a well-cut grey suit, Furtwangler was fully at ease as he took the chair facing the commission, behind whom stood a battery of Allied and German cameramen. He has 15 witnesses.

The President, reading the allegations, pointed out that Furtwangler was never a member of the Nazi Party and

mentioned cases where he had aided Jews, but called on him to explain his alleged adherence to Nazi ideology.

Goering's Telegram

Furtwangler said he "felt embarrassed but could not refuse" when he received a telegram from Goering in June, 1935, telling him he was made a State Councillor.

The prosecutor, who is an official of the Protective Society of Berlin Artists, read a letter which Furtwangler wrote to Goebbels in April, 1933, protesting against the expulsion of the famous director, Reinhardt, from the German theatre. Beside the protest, however, the letter contained the phrase stressed by the prosecutor "We welcome a revival of our national dignity."

As Vice-President of the Reichs Musik Chamber, under its President, Richard Strauss, Furtwangler said he had dealt with attempts by Nazis to throw out Jews and others unacceptable to the Nazis.

"Did You Help?"

The prosecutor: "And did you help these poor people?" Furtwangler: "In some cases."

Furtwangler, with his famous hands resting lightly on the table, shrugged his shoulders when another Goebbels letter was read describing his musical tours abroad as Nazi "best foreign propaganda."

"That was their point of view," he said quietly.—Reuter.

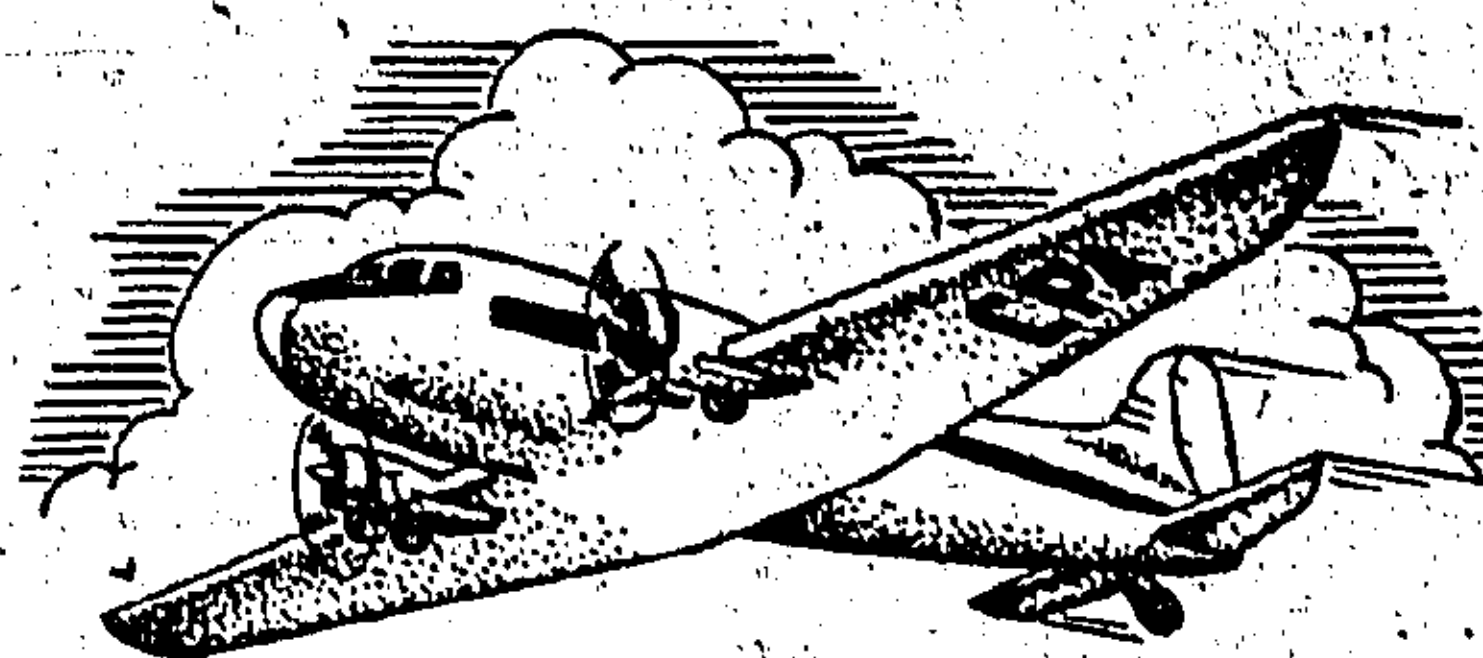
Bulgarian Coup D'Etat Foiled

Sofia, Dec. 11.

The Bulgarian Government today announced the discovery of a military plot and the immediate arrest and indictment of Gen. Ivan Popov and 15 colonels, nine majors and five captains for attempting an organized rebellion of army officers aimed at the overthrow of the Fatherland Front pro-Soviet Government by a coup d'etat.

They also are charged with plotting to throw the army into the "enemy hands" in the event of a war among the big powers. They are accused of having established contacts with foreign missions regarding the switching of army intelligence to those powers.

They are charged with contacting Bulgarian political personalities and members of the general staff regarding the organization of resistance activities in Northern Bulgaria.—United Press.



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DISARMAMENT PROPOSAL

London's Plan Thrown Into Melting Pot

Resolution On Troops Dropped

Lake Success, N.Y., Dec. 11.

The plan for international supervision of disarmament, which was dramatically introduced into the United Nations General Assembly last night by Sir Hartley Shawcross, of Britain, was thrown into the melting pot at the draft sub-committee meeting today.

The sub-committee, which was attended by the Big Five, discussed Sir Hartley's plan and earlier disarmament proposals in a closed session lasting 75 minutes.

It was learned authoritatively that at this meeting Britain, Russia and the United States agreed in principle to the suggestion by M. Paul-Henri Spaak, of Belgium, to link up the question of troop census with any general disarmament plan.

It was agreed that the existing resolution on troops should be dropped. As suggested by Mr. Spaak, a clause would be added to the disarmament plan requiring Governments and the Security Council to report to the General Assembly next year on the progress in establishing an international control system, withdrawal of troops from abroad and the reduction of arms.

Sir Hartley agreed, in view of the "gentleman's agreement" with M. Molotov, to drop the resolution which he introduced in the General Assembly last night in favour of establishing an international process of disarmament.

Spirit Of Accord

After the closed meeting, Sir Hartley Shawcross said: "The conversations are going along in a spirit of accord, unity and co-operation. The atmosphere is more than satisfactory."

In view of the agreement reached in the sub-committee, M. Vyshinsky of Russia, withdrew his amendment to the disarmament resolution in how often countries should submit information of their armed forces and international supervisory agency to armaments.

The President, M. Spaak, ruled that the resolution on general regulation and reduction of armaments was adopted unanimously. M. Spaak said that because the troop census had become interlocked with disarmament, the existing resolution had become more or less obsolete.

Next Session

He proposed a fresh paragraph inviting the governments of member states and the Security Council to report next session to the General Assembly on the measures they had taken to carry out the recommendations on a reduction of arms and international control.

These recommendations would apply to establishing an international system of control and inspection, to conventions which would establish control commissions, to control organs, to the withdrawal of troops from ex-enemy countries, withdrawal of troops from member states, and to a general reduction of armed forces, including those at home.

Sir Hartley Shawcross and M. Vyshinsky agreed in principle with the suggestion. Mr. Vyshinsky, however, said he would need time to consult his delegation before he could accept it. It is understood that Senator Tom Connally, United States, also agreed in principle.—Reuter.

should be given an assurance that his recommendations will receive the serious consideration of Government at the highest level and that, if approved, it will be the concern of Government to ensure that such recommendations are carried out with the assistance of such Government or Municipal services as may be available.

(h) That the terms of reference of the Port Committee should be to consider and to advise Government upon all matters relating to the welfare, control, administration and development of the Port, including recommendations; its directive being to see that adequate and proper facilities are available in the Port for ships and their cargoes and to make and submit to Government all necessary plans in that behalf, but to allow approved private enterprise to provide these facilities as far as possible, and also to let private enterprise do its own operating.

(i) That the express duty of the Port Committee to keep under review the execution of all approved port works and for this purpose it should be empowered to call for progress reports.

(j) That the Harbour Master should be relieved of his duties as Marine Magistrate in order that he may concentrate on Port affairs.

(k) That no other scheme or method of control or operation of the Port commends itself to the Committee.

(l) That the Port Committee envisaged in these recommendations should be constituted at the earliest possible date.

EGYPT TREATY

London, Dec. 11.
Replying in the House of Commons today to a question from the Conservative Member Brigadier Fitzroy MacLean, regarding the present state of negotiations for a treaty between Egypt and Britain, the Minister of State, Mr. Hector McNeill, replied:—

"I regret I am not in a position to make a statement on this at present. Full information will be given to the House at the earliest appropriate moment."—Reuter.

Committee Opposes Port Trust For H.K.

(Continued from Page 4)

arrangements would result in the advantages claimed by Mr. Colman for the Port Trust form of administration.

The view was expressed that labour conditions would result in the demand for mechanization of the Port and that if private enterprise (which had in some cases already taken action to meet this situation) lagged behind the demand a Port Trust might perform a useful service in providing mechanization.

Views Of Mr. Nicol

Mr. Nicol strongly supported Sir David Owen's proposals believing that a Trust would be progressive in outlook, would be prepared to approve a long-term plan and to carry it out, financing capital works on the basis of receiving revenue sufficient to cover maintenance and interest charges.

Mr. Nicol believed that Port development had been ineffectual in the past because no person or body had been entrusted with the duty of development and because there was no guarantee that a plan, even if accepted by Government, would be adhered to and carried out, partly by reason of fluctuating allocations from re-

venue and partly because the policy being dominated by the Governor for the time being, had changed from period to period.

Mr. Nicol doubted whether, if it should be decided to adopt some form of control by a "Government dominated" Committee, this Committee would be allowed to draw up a plan of development, to approve of a plan for, say, ten years, would be allowed to raise funds to meet the capital expenditure involved, and would be accepted by the Government as the controlling authority over all the waters of the Colony.

View Of Mr. Jolly

Mr. Jolly opposed to the formation of a Port Trust. He considered that the removal from the Harbour Office of the work of the Ships Survey Office, the Shipping Master's Office and the Marine Court, would cause inconvenience to shipping, a reduction in efficiency and an increase in expense.

Mr. Jolly advocated the change of the Harbour Department into a Directorate of Marine, which would be responsible for the day to day working of the Harbour from the marine point of view.

He expressed the opinion that a Port Commission might be set up as a Director Body charged with the functions of the existing Port Executive Committee and the general control of the use of port facilities and also be responsible for the planning and execution of a development and reconstruction programme.

Mr. Jolly thought that the Director of Marine might be Chairman of the Port Commission and as such be the link between the Directorate, the Commission and the Government. He envisaged the ultimate development of the Commission into an autonomous Trust owning and operating all the port facilities.

As an alternative Mr. Jolly suggested that past deficiencies, which he attributed to the lack of a declared policy, might be remedied by Government drawing up a complete plan for Port development in its widest form and allocating priorities to the execution of approved works. He advocated the setting up of a strong Development Board to prepare this plan and would make the Port Engineer, the Executive Officer of this Board for the execution of minor works and the supervision of authorized major schemes.

The Recommendations

The Committee has arrived at the following conclusions and makes the following recommendations:

(a) That, although certain advantages might accrue through the establishment of a Port Trust, principally in so far as matters of long-term policy might benefit from the continuity of corporate control, the scope of the Trust as envisaged by Sir David Owen is insufficient to justify the expense, which the establishment of such a body would undoubtedly involve, and all requirements for the administration and control of the Port, including matters of long-term policy, can be met as adequately and satisfactorily by more simple means involving no expenditure.

We accordingly recommend against the establishment of a Port Trust.

The Committee is of the opinion that the remedying of deficiencies and defects is dependent upon the decision of Government on four matters of policy, namely:—

(1) the renewal of pier leases, or the grant of new leases;

(2) the further reclamation of land in Central and Western Victoria;

(3) the filling in, or alternatively the dredging, of the Yaumati Typhoon Refuge; and

(4) the preparation of an overall plan for the development of the Colony.

(d) That any requisite co-ordination between the Government and the necessary representation of the shipping and other interests concerned could be attained by the formation of a Port Committee.

Direct Access

(f) That the Port Committee, through its Chairman and/or the Harbour Master as the Executive Officer, in matters of Port control, should have direct access to Government for the purpose of making representations.

(g) That the Port Committee

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"SINKIANG"	Singapore & Penang 4 p.m. 23rd Dec.

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"NINGHAI"	Bangkok & Saigon 15th Dec.
"PAKHOU"	Bangkok 15th Dec.
"HUNAN"	Tientsin & Tsingtao 17th Dec.
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Strict Enforcement Of Import Rules

The recently promulgated import restrictions will be strictly enforced in regard to consumer goods, it is learned. The importable quantity of every item will be calculated on the basis of records of past consumption and present requirements, and quota figures will be published only after they have been approved by the highest Government authorities.

Different trade associations, however, are free to offer suggestions as to methods of allocations among importers. A board of arbitration is being set up to settle disputes in this connection. Meanwhile, the feeling is growing among trade circles that the quota system will fail to produce the desired effect.

London Exchanges

On New York 4.02 1/2, 4.03 1/2, Montreal 4.04 1/2, Zurich 17.54, 17.56, Stockholm 14.37, 14.40, Brazil 15.41 1/2, Belgium 17.50, 17.52, Paris & French Empire 47.50, 48.00, Syria 8.81, 8.85, Lillo 90.50, 90.20, Swiss Bank Notes Middle 17.25, 17.10, Netherlands West Indies 7.58, Netherlands East Indies 10.68, 10.70, Holland 10.63, Panama 4.02, 4.04, Denmark 15.32, 15.35, France—201, 202, Norway 19.08, 19.05, Palestine 90 3/4, 100 1/4, Philippines 8.08, 8.10, Forward Rates, One Month—United States 3 1/2, 3 1/4, D. Canada 1/4, D. O. Switzerland 1 1/2, 1 1/4, Sweden 1 1/2, 1 1/4, D. Paris 40 cents, 40 cents, Holland 1 cent, 1 cent.

Bank of England Clearing Rates: Madrid 4.00, Italy 17.25, Free Market Rates: India 17.54, 18.00, Australia 12.5, 12.5 1/2, New Zealand 12.47, 12.5, South Africa 100, 100.50, Tientsin 12.8, 13.0, Alexandria 17.375, 17.525, Singapore 24.1/2, 24.3/4, Hongkong 1/2-1/16, 1/2-1/16, Philippines 8.10, 8.15, Bangkok 1/2-1/16, 1/2-1/16.

Special A/C Rates: Lima 26.10, 26.16, Lima 16.02, 16.02, Valparaiso 100.625, 101.500, Uruguay 2.16, 2.20, Central American A/C Rates: Mexico 19.45, 19.65, Bogota 7.00, 7.08, Reuter.

London Stock Market

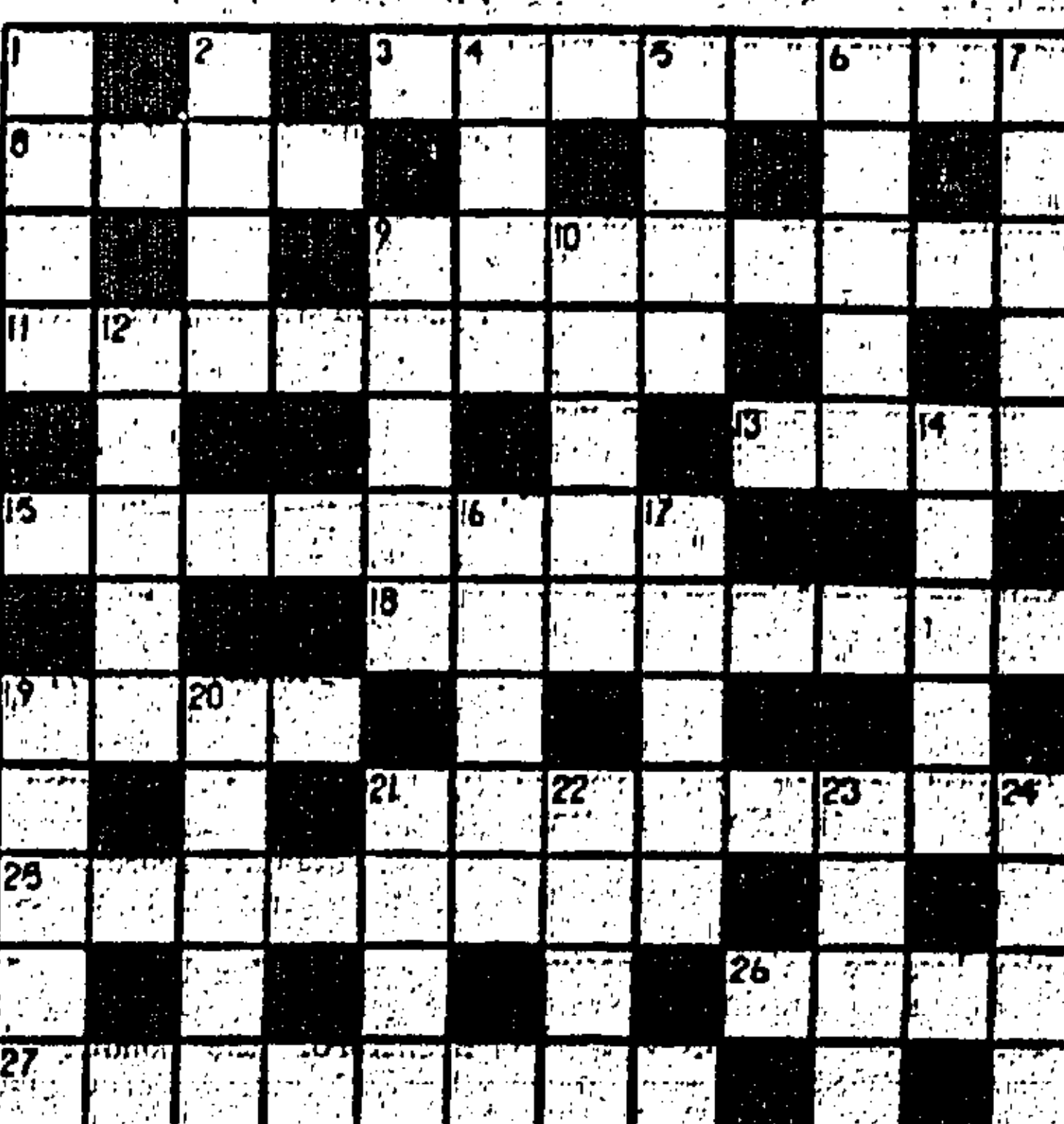
The start of account dealing on the London Stock Exchange has not yet produced any marked increase in trading and business continues as earlier in the week on rather specialised lines. Shipping issues were again the most prominent section with rises spreading under the continued leadership of P. & O. and the Orient Steam Navigation Company.

Industrial concerns were quiet but paint issues were again firmer following the confirmation of British purchase of Argentine lime oil. India is inquiring for Indian iron and steel issues of Bencal.

Glitcheads were quietly steady, showing no reaction to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement on cash applications to Treasury loans. Railways and coppers opened quietly firm with South African inquiry for Nocheman Copper. Tea, rubber and jute all recorded small gains, while leading oils finished slightly easier.

Consols, 2 1/2, 104 1/2, 98 1/2, Conversion Loan, 3 1/2, 115, War Loan, 3 1/2, 107 1/2, New War Loan, 3 1/2, 104 1/2, Victory Bonds, 123 1/2, Saving Bonds, 3 1/2, 106 1/2, 106 1/2, 106 1/2, Saving Bonds, 3 1/2, 106 1/2, 111 1/2, 111 1/2, German Loan, 7 1/2, (Davy) 11 1/2, 46, Yukang Railway, 3 1/2, 1911 26, Honan Railway, 3 1/2, 1915 30, Shanghai-Nanking Railway, 3 1/2, 28, Mercantile Bank of India, 4 1/2, 23, Chartered Bank of India, A. & C. 11 1/2, H.K. & Shanghai Banking Corp. 8 1/2, Lydenburg Estates 100 1/2, South Africa Townships 27 1/2, Selection Trust 4 1/2, South Africa Townships 11 1/2, Canadian Pacific 18 1/2, Mexican Eagle 14 1/2, Reuter.

A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

- Beginning.
- Practical.
- Entire.
- Makes up.
- Check.
- Disadvantage.

Yesterday's Crossword

- ACROSS:—1. Random; 4. Therm; 7. Intruder; 8. Teeth; 9. Sandal; 11. Elderly; 13. Degraded; 15. Needed; 16. Arena; 18. Typewriter; 20. Dusky; 21. Tryst.
- DOWN:—1. Ruins; 2. Dared; 3. Meddled; 4. Tasted; 5. Endeared; 6. Mighty; 10. Neglects; 11. Lend; 12. Draped; 14. Apollo; 16. Easy; 17. Dregs.

Shanghai, Dec. 11.

The recently promulgated import restrictions will be strictly enforced in regard to consumer goods, it is learned. The importable quantity of every item will be calculated on the basis of records of past consumption and present requirements, and quota figures will be published only after they have been approved by the highest Government authorities.

Different trade associations, however, are free to offer suggestions as to methods of allocations among importers. A board of arbitration is being set up to settle disputes in this connection. Meanwhile, the feeling is growing among trade circles that the quota system will fail to produce the desired effect.

The "China Press," Chinese-owned English-language daily, quotes Chinese and foreign business men as saying that the crux of the situation is not the import situation but the impossibility of increasing exports under prevailing conditions. Several kinds of Chinese export items—those most in demand before the war—are at present between 50 and 150 per cent above world market levels, while certain imported articles are 25 to 50 per cent below competitive local brands.

"By no means have the new regulations brought about more confidence in national industrial developments," the paper said, "nor have they strengthened faith in local currency improvements. The downward trend on the Stock Exchange and the upward trend on the gold market provide ample proof of this fact."

Lack Of Storage Space

The import regulations, however, are not the prime concern of importers at present. They are busily hunting empty storage space for the rush of cargoes—already ordered before enforcement of the restrictions expected to begin in a few days with the arrival of the first United States commercial liners since the end of the U.S. Maritime strike. Some 20 fully-laden ships will be arriving shortly, and they will be followed by a fleet variously estimated at between 40 and 60, it is reported.

Many of these vessels, under UNRRA charter, are said to be carrying industrial equipment which will be distributed among Chinese industries to speed up their rehabilitation. CNRRA has already signed a contract with the Chinese Government to distribute power plants to nine coal mines and six power stations throughout China as well as a large quantity of shelter construction materials to the National Resources Commission. All these plants and stations were inspected by officials of CNRRA, UNRRA, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the N.R.C. before being eligible for industrial rehabilitation machinery and supplies.

To be eligible for CNRRA help, it is stated, a factory must show that it is located in an area actually occupied by the Japanese, was damaged during the war, requires equipment that could not be procured in China at the end of the war, and seeks help to restore war damage not to expand. Payment conditions are 30 per cent of the cost on delivery and the remainder in 12 quarterly instalments within three years after receipt of equipment. A CNRRA official said that the equipment is sold instead of distributed free in order to prevent unfair competition and to secure cash that can be spent in other relief work. Reuter.

N.Y. Stock Market

New York, Dec. 12.

Individual climbers, including sugar, monopolized the stock market while many leaders dined in lower territory. The direction was a bit cloudy after a fairly active opening. Dealing slowed appreciably but picked up in the final half hour.

Closing sales and losses of fractions to a point or more were pretty evenly divided. Transfers were around 1,800,000 shares. Tilling upward were: American Sugar, Cuban American Sugar and West Indies Sugar. Down averages:—Stocks 64.77, 20 Industrials 176.07, 10 Rails 62.27, 10 Utilities 37.16.

N.Y. EXCHANGES

New York, Dec. 11.
American A/C Sterling 4.02 1/2, 4.03 1/2, 15/16, American A/C Sterling 3 Months 4.03 1/2, 4.03 1/2, On Sweden 27.82, 27.84, France 84 1/4, 84 1/4, Switzerland 100 1/2, 100 1/2, Switzerland (Free) 117 1/2, 117 1/2, Spain 92 1/2, 92 1/2, Portugal 4.04, 4.06, Australia 3.22, New Zealand 3.23, South Africa 4.03 1/2, British East Africa 20.30, India 50.25, Shanghai 55.50, Argentina (Official) 20.77, Argentina (Free) 24.40, Brazil 5.41, Reuter.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN N.V.

King's Building, Connaught Road.

Tel: Shipping Dept. 28016. Passage Dept. 28017.

Chinese Agents, Connaught Road, C. No. 82. Tel. 25133.

Ship due from Sailing for

m.s. "TJISADANE" Shanghai/Amoy 14th Dec. Manila/Macassar/Java ports 17th Dec.

s.s. "TJIBADAK" Java Manila Amoy Swatow 23rd Dec. Singapore/Java ports 24th December

m.s. "TJITJALENGKA" Java 25th Dec. Amoy/Shanghai 30th Dec.

ROYAL PACKET NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(DELI STRAITS CHINA LINE).

Ship due from Sailing for

m.s. "VAN HEUTZ" Belawan Deli, Penang, Amoy/Swato Singapore 22nd Dec. 24th Dec.

(ORIENT JAVA AFRICA LINE).

Ship due from Sailing for

m.s. "STRAAT SOENDA" Singapore, Mauritius, Lourenco, Mar del Plata, Bahia, Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth, Mosselbay, Capetown, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Santos, Rio de Janeiro 14th December, 1946.

IN PORT

Ship due from Sailing for

m.s. "RUYS" New York and about 2nd Jan. Philippines, Straits, Colombia.

KERR STEAMSHIP CO., INC.

Ship due from Sailing for

m.s. "DERWENT HALL" New York and about 2nd Jan. Philippines, Straits, Colombia.

HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Ship due from Sailing for

m.s. "PHILAE" Rotterdam/Antwerp/Genoa/Port Said/Singapore 16th Dec. Proceeding to Shanghai Early Jan. 1947.

s.s. "HELLENIC" Rotterdam/Antwerp/Genoa/Port Said/Port Said/Antwerp/Rotterdam/Copenhagen/Gothenburg/Oslo, End Jan. 1947.

s.s. "GAASTERKERK" Rotterdam/Antwerp/Genoa/Port Said/Singapore/Manila 20th Feb. 1947. Proceeding to Shanghai

IN PORT

Subject to alteration without Notice.

For particulars of Freight & Passage please apply to—

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN N.V.

King's Building, Connaught Road, C. Tel. 28016.

POST OFFICE NOTICES

Outward Mails

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below:
FRIDAY, DEC. 13.
Airmail for Manila (C.N.A.C. Plane) (Reg.) 9.30 a.m. (Ord.) 10 a.m.
Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Kwong Fook Cheung) 10 a.m.
Swatow and Amoy (Hong Sang) 10 a.m.
Tramkang (Kwongchow) (Tak On) Noon.
Canada, U.S.A., Central and South America via Vancouver P.C. (Sammow) Kowloon C.P.O. (Par. & Reg.) 1 p.m. (Ord.) 1.30 p.m.; G.P.O. (Par. & Reg.) 1.30 p.m., (Ord.) 2 p.m.
Bangkok (Eastern Trader) 3 p.m.
Airmail for Canton, Chungking and Kuning (C.N.A.C. Plane) (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.
Airmail for Singapore, Colombo, Delhi, Sydney and Auckland (H. & A. Line) C.P.O. (Reg.) 2 p.m. (Ord.) 2.30 p.m.; G.P.O. (Reg.) 2.30 p.m., (Ord.) 3 p.m.
Airmail for Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Dacca, Cairo, Johannesburg, Augusta, Marseilles, London, New York and Canada (B.O.A.C. Plane) Kowloon C.P.O. (Reg.) 2.30 p.m., (Ord.) 3 p.m.; G.P.O. (Reg.) 3 p.m., (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin and Shekai (Kwong Sang) 4 p.m.
Canton (Sat On) 4 p.m.

SAILINGS

S.S. "WOSANG" to Straits & Calcutta 2 p.m. 14th Dec.

S.S. "KWASANG" to Balikpapan 4 p.m. 16th Dec.

S.S. "MAUSANG" to Singapore & Penang 23rd Dec.

ARRIVALS

S.S. "KWASANG" from Shanghai, Keelung & Foochow 14th Dec.

S.S. "HINSANG" from Sandakan 16th Dec.

S.S. "WINGSANG" from Shanghai 18th Dec.

IN PORT

S.S. "EMPIRE WITHAM" alongside Cosmo. Dock.

S.S. "EMPIRE FRASER" Kin. W. No. 3. S.

S.S. "WOSANG" Buoy B.3.

Subject to alteration without notice.

All intending Passengers are requested to register their names as far as possible in advance of the time at which they wish to leave

Agents: GLEN LINE LTD.

M.V. "GLENAPP" Loads for U.K., Rotterdam

Antwerp Amsterdam 15th Dec.—Sails 16th Dec.

S.S. "EDWARD BRUCE" due from U.K.—End Dec.

Managing Agents:

AUSTRALIA CHINA LINE

M.V. KAFIRISTAN due from Australia 16th Dec.

M.V. DAGHESTAN due from Australia 19th Dec.

Agents: THE WESTERN CANADA STEAMSHIPS LTD.

S.S. "LAKE ATLIN" due from Vancouver 15th Dec.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

SHIPPING DEPARTMENT

16 Pedder Street

Tel. 30311.

General Managers.

INDO-CHINA S. N. CO., LTD.

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S.S. "LAKE ATLIN" due from Vancouver 15th Dec.

PRINCE LINE

U.S.A. PACIFIC COAST—

FAR EAST—HALIFAX—BOSTON—NEW YORK

